

Academy for the Arts, Science, and Technology

900 79th Avenue North
Myrtle Beach, SC 29572

Grades 9–12 Career Center

Enrollment 289 Students

Director Ronnie Burgess 843-839-1412

Board Chair Will Garland 843-358-8002

Superintendent
Dr. Bobby Nalley, Acting Super 843-488-6700

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2006 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

ABSOLUTE RATING

EXCELLENT

Absolute Ratings of Career Centers

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
29	8	1	0	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING

EXCELLENT

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

YES

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the state rating for career and technology centers must be Excellent, Good, Above Average, Average or Below Average.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2003	Excellent	Excellent	Yes
2004	Excellent	Good	Yes
2005	Excellent	Excellent	Yes
2006	Excellent	Excellent	Yes

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- **Excellent** – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Good** – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Average** – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Below Average** – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Unsatisfactory** – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Mastering Core Competencies			Receiving Diplomas			Place in Field		
	This Center		State Center Average%	This Center		State Center Average%	This Center		State Center Average%
	n	%		n	%		n	%	
All Students	121	96.7%	82.9%	75	98.7%	92.6%	175	98.9%	97.5%
Students with disabilities on diploma track	6	100.0%	71.9%	2	I/S	70.2%	4	I/S	97.3%
Gender									
Male	57	100.0%	79.4%	35	100.0%	91.3%	84	100.0%	98.5%
Female	64	93.8%	87.1%	40	97.5%	93.9%	89	97.8%	96.4%
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	93	97.9%	87.9%	62	98.4%	95.5%	147	98.7%	98.5%
African American	23	91.3%	76.5%	10	100.0%	88.7%	22	100.0%	95.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	I/S	88.0%	1	I/S	88.2%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Hispanic	1	I/S	81.9%	1	I/S	88.9%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	86.5%	0	N/A	88.9%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Migrant Status									
Migrant									
Non-migrant									
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	0	N/A	81.6%	0	N/A	90.8%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Non-Limited English Proficient	121	96.7%	82.9%	75	98.7%	92.6%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	34	88.2%	78.2%	16	100.0%	89.2%	27	96.4%	95.1%
Full-pay meals	87	100.0%	87.5%	59	98.3%	95.1%	146	99.3%	98.2%

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

DEFINITIONS OF PERFORMANCE RATING TERMS

- **Mastering Core Competencies**—The percentage of students enrolled in career and technology courses at the center who earn a 2.0 or above on the final course grade.
- **Graduation Rate**—The percentage of 12th grade career and technology students who graduate in the spring.
- **Placement Rate**—The percentage of career and technology completers available for placement over a 3-year period who are actually placed in postsecondary instruction, military services, or employment.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Median Career Center
Students (n= 289)			
With disabilities other than speech	2.1%	Up from 1.3%	2.2%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	0.0%	No change	18.3%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	289	Down from 302	650
Students participating in worked-based experiences	76.1%	Down from 81.8%	33.7%
Teachers (n= 29)			
Teachers with advanced degrees	51.7%	Down from 53.6%	25.5%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV		N/AV
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	3.7%	No change	17.5%
Teachers returning from previous year	85.7%	Up from 84.1%	90.9%
Teacher attendance rate	95.4%	Down from 96.4%	95.5%
Average teacher salary	\$49,637	Up 6.7%	\$44,019
Prof. development days/teacher	7.3 days	Down from 27.0 days	13.2 days
School			
Director's years at Center	2.0	Up from 1.0	4.0
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$8,090	Down 12.4%	\$2,769
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	65.8%	Up from 54.0%	52.3%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	77.0%		65.0%
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	Up from 95.0%	85.3%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	12.9%	6.2%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	9.0%	10.2%

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF DIRECTOR AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

This year the Academy for the Arts, Science, and Technology (AASST) was recognized by Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence as a national Lighthouse School. Lighthouse Schools are selected because they "serve as a beacon of exemplary achievements and contributions to ensure successful educational experiences for all children." The Academy was also proud to be one of the host schools for the International Blue Ribbon Conference, which was held in Myrtle Beach this year. Conference participants visited the Academy, met with faculty members and students, and observed classes. A team of Academy teachers presented at the conference as well.

Academy teachers presented at other national and state conferences as well, including SREB's High Schools That Work, NCTM, South Carolina's Business and Education Summit, the World Trade Center Conference in Charleston, and NAWI (National Association of Work Force Initiative). Also, our school hosted a session for Leadership South Carolina, which is a leadership program for professional and business persons in the state. The participants toured our school and attended sessions with Dr. Bill Daggett of the International Center for Leadership in Education and Larry Biddle from Burroughs and Chapin.

As a part of our membership in SREB's High Schools that Work network, we are required every two years to test a sampling of our seniors with a version of the NAEP test (National Assessment of Educational Progress). However, we elected to test our entire senior class and over half of our seniors will receive the Award of Educational Achievement presented by SREB to students who have taken the HSTW recommended rigorous coursework and who met the pre-established performance goals in reading, math, and science.

The Academy has continued its work partnering with schools on an international level. An exchange of educators with TISBI Institute in Kazan, Russia, has established a mirror of AAST in Kazan. In addition, the Principal of AAST will visit Kazan to deliver the opening address for a UNESCO Conference focused on students with disabilities.

Another accomplishment is that we have increased the number of college-level classes offered from 5 in 2004 to 10 this year. Student enrollment in college-level courses has increased from 40 in 2004 to 174 this year. We have also increased the number of Advanced Placement (AP) courses offered from 3 in 2004 to 7 in 2005. Student enrollment in AP courses has increased from 40 in 2004 to 113 in 2005.

The Academy celebrated the accomplishments of the majors during our second annual EXPO. Featured events were theater and dance performances, a sidewalk art contest, a health fair, a plant sale, activities with an elementary school class, tours of the nature trail, and displays related to senior exhibitions of mastery. A special event was a ceremony honoring veterans from World War II. Each veteran was presented a certificate from the Academy and a pin sent from their comrades in Russia who had fought beside them in World War II. A group of teachers and students had visited Russia in late December and met with Russian veterans who asked them to bring the pins back to America and to present them to American veterans.

Oretha Manu, President of SIC
Dr. Virginia G. Simmons, Principal 2005-06

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	27	150	97
Percent satisfied with learning environment	96.3%	95.3%	90.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	96.3%	93.9%	86.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	92.3%	90.6%	76.8%

*Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included.